

to be governed by France: That the Dutch can't govern it, seems very clear to him: And that the House of Austria don't care much about it, except as a general Frontier, appears evident to him. And as to what regards his Master, though he would like a Maritime Coast very well; yet, what with the French Armies on one Side, and the Interests of the Maritime Powers on the other, and the weakening of his present Dominions by Extension, he thinks it would be better let alone than meddled with. It has been intimated to him, That suppose those Countries reverted to Spain; he replies, as from himself, That would only be giving it to France under another Name. Well, but then says another eminent Minister, Suppose we give it to the Infant Don Philip in lieu of his Claims, in Right of his Mother, in Italy, and resume, in him, the old Burgundian Monarchy. Why, then, replies the Minister, If French Flanders was thrown in, it would make a pretty Monarchy. His Eminence mused some Time on that Article; and then turning towards M. D'Argenson; said, I fancy the King would have no Objection to that, provided a suitable Cession was made him by Spain in the West Indies. It is very possible, replied M. D'Argenson; but this would in no Sense bring about a Peace, while the Differences of quite another Nature subsist between us and Great Britain. To which the Prussian Minister readily answer'd, I have a thought may end all Disputes between the two Crowns for ever; Suppose that France was to cede all North America to Great-Britain, and was in lieu thereof to have all the Continent between South-Carolina and the River Mississippi, with the three capital Spanish Islands of Cuba, Hispaniola, and Porto Rico; both their Dominions would be more compact and convenient, especially if the French ceded to the English Martineco, and the other Islands of that Side: The State of America would then be tolerably fair and equal; and Matters so situated in those Parts of Europe, as to banish all future Tergiversation. In this Light, said the Prussian Minister, there could be no future Disputes between France and England about Dunkirk, and the other Sea Ports, nor about North America; nor between the Houses of Bourbon and Austria, about the Low Countries. As to Italy, let the House of Lorraine have all Lombardy, and erect that again into a Kingdom; by which the Balance of that Part of the World would be very well preserved, and the King of Sardinia back'd by a good Ally at Home; which the House of Bourbon can have no Objection to; if nothing but the Tranquility of Europe is intended. I believe replied his Eminence, that nothing else is intended; notwithstanding we have learnt from the King of Prussia, who is a perfect Master in Politicks, that to extend our Frontiers is the surest Way, at least to preserve internal Tranquility and Repose: However, he could not help thinking that Peace was universally desired; and that, although France had as little Reason to care about it as any of her Neighbours, yet he believed the King would readily come into any proper Measures tending to so happy an Event.

This Piece of Conference, perhaps purposely divulged, has set all our Wits at Work on forming such Plans as their Imaginations suggest to them: And I hope in a Post or two to divert you with some of their most important Projects; which are fram'd here with as much Facility, as you make Verses by Doctor Swift's Rule, by hammering them in a Mortar.

April 3. They write from Marseilles, that the English are continually cruising before Barcelona and Carthagená, to hinder the Spanish Transports, from executing their Order.

It is assur'd from Vienna, that the grand Designs of the King of Prussia will very soon appear to be in Favour of the Emperor; and that all that the Ministers of France give out to the contrary.

We learn from Amsterdam, that they have received Advice there of a most dreadful Fire that broke out lately in the French East-India Company's Magazines at Port l'Orient, by which all their naval Stores, and some rich Goods, were destroy'd; the Loss amounting in the whole to upwards of two Millions of Livres.

Extract of a private Letter from Edinburgh, dated March 25.

Sir Andrew Agnew, with his Party, which is now not above 300, are besieged in the Castle of Blair. When the Rebels first appeared, with Lord George Murray at their Head, he offer'd them Battle, which they refused: But their Body increasing, he took to the Castle, which cannot be taken without Cannon; some say they have two small Pieces, others say none; however, as Sir Andrew has Provisions, he will defend the Castle as long as Possible. The Hussars, who were reconnoitring them, brought to Perth 16 or 18 Prisoners, whom they had terribly cut and slash'd, their broad Swords not being sufficient to defend them against these Troops. A Party of Hessians, compos'd of the Prince, Lord Crawford, and four Regiments, are march'd to Sir Andrew's Relief.

ANNAPOLIS.

Friday last, at a Court holden here for the County of Anne Arundel, three Persons were arraigned for drinking the Pretender's Health; and being found guilty, after a fair Tryal, they were fined twenty Pounds each, and obliged to give Security for their good Behaviour.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

RAN away from the Subscriber at Elk-Ridge, in Anne Arundel County, on the 5th of this Instant June, a Convict Servant Man named John Fox, a low squat Fellow, of a dark Complexion, squints with his Eyes, has short black Hair, and a black Beard, a Scar in his forehead, and has lost the first Joint of the second Toe on his right Foot. He had on, and took with him, a good check Shirt, a good Downy Shirt, a striped silk Handkerchief, a brown-colour'd Duroy Coat, an Elk-skin Jacket with byas Buttons, Buck-skin Breeches; knit Cotton Leggings, Country-made Pumps, and Buckles which are not Fellows. Whoever secures the said Servant, so as his Master may have him again, shall have Ten Pounds Reward.

GEORGE BECRATT.

By the Court of Vice-Admiralty of the Province of Maryland, June 12, 1746.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ship *Lawson*, now lying in the River *Potomack*, with all her Tackle, Apparel, and Appurtenances, being Condemned in this Court for the Payment of Mariners Wages and Costs of Suit, will be exposed to sale by the Marshal of this Court, at the House of Mrs. *Catharine Playfay*, at *Piscataway*, in *Prince-George's* County, on Thursday the third Day of July next, to the highest Bidder.

Signed per Order, WILLIAM ROGERS, Register.

STRAYED or Stolen, from the Subscriber, in *King's-Town*, in *Queen-Anne's* County, the middle of May past, a large black Gelding shod all round, paces very well; has a bald Face, and some saddle spots. He is Branded on the near Buttock thus I H on the near Shoulder thus H.

Whoever will give any account where the said Horse is, so that the owner may get him again, shall receive twenty shillings reward; if out of this Province, twenty shillings Reward.

JOHN COLTONSWORTH

Wanted by George Downing, to be sold cheap, in small quantities, by GEORGE DOWNING